

Amendment to the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A transgenic cotton plant comprising fiber cells stably transformed with an expression cassette comprising a gene ~~encoding~~ which comprises a synthetic coding sequence ~~including~~ encoding at least one pentapeptide which is repeated at least once.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) An expression cassette comprising one or more regulatory elements, a fiber specific promoter, one or more selectable marker genes and a terminator, ~~one or more selectable marker genes, one or more regulatory elements and a fiber specific wherein the promoter which~~ promotes the expression of a synthetic gene comprising a coding sequence ~~encoding synthetic coding sequence including at least one~~ a pentapeptide which is repeated at least once.

4. (Currently Amended) The expression cassette of claim 3, wherein said comprising the pentapeptide is Gly-Val-Gly-Val-Pro (SEQ ID NO:2), ~~which is repeated at least once.~~

5. (Currently Amended) The expression cassette of claim 3, wherein said fiber specific promoter is an E-6 promoter.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Previously Presented) The transgenic cotton plant of Claim 1, wherein said gene encodes between 20 and 251 repeats of the amino acid sequence Gly-Val-Gly-Val-Pro (SEQ ID NO:2).

9. (Previously Presented) The transgenic cotton plant of Claim 1, wherein said pentapeptide is Gly-Val-Gly-Val-Pro (SEQ ID NO:2).

10. (Currently Amended) The transgenic cotton plant of Claim ~~8~~1, wherein said pentapeptide is Val-Pro-Gly-Val-Gly (SEQ ID NO: 1).

11. (New) A transgenic cotton plant comprising fiber cells stably transformed with an expression cassette comprising a synthetic gene which comprises a coding sequence encoding either a Gly-Val-Gly-Val-Pro or a Val-Pro-Gly-Val-Gly pentapeptide that is repeated at least once.

12. (New) A transgenic cotton plant of claim 11, where the pentapeptide is repeated in multiples of ten.